

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the preceding amendments and following remarks, is respectfully requested. Claims 1-2, 4, 6-9, 11, 13-16 and 18-20 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 4, 8, 11, 15-16 and 20 are amended, and claims 5, 12, and 17 are cancelled. By this Amendment, no claims are added. Claims 1, 8, 15, and 20 are the independent claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant notes with appreciation that claims 5, 12 and 17 contain allowable subject matter. Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 8, 15 and 20 to include the allowable features of claims 5, 12 and 17, thereby cancelling claims 5, 12 and 17. Therefore, Applicant submits that the pending claims are in a condition for allowance, and respectfully requests the Examiner to issue a Notice of Allowance. If the Examiner believes otherwise, Applicant requests the Examiner to call the Applicant at the telephone number of the undersigned below to set up an interview.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Choi / Malladi

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 4, 6-7, 11, 15-16, 18 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Choi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,130,132, hereinafter “Choi”) in view of Malladi et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0210668, hereinafter “Malladi”). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for the reasons detailed below.

As stated above, Applicant has amended independent claim 1 to include the allowable features of claim 5. Similarly, independent claim 15 has been amended to include the allowable

features of claim 17. Because neither Choi nor Malladi disclose or suggest these features, Applicant submits that independent claims 1 and 15 are presently allowable. Claims 4, 6-7, 11, 16 and 18-19, dependent on claims 1 and 15, are patentable for at least the same reasons stated above. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the rejection to claims 1, 4, 6-7, 11, 15-16, 18 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn.

Choi / Malladi / Chulajata

The Examiner has rejected claims 2, 8-9, 13-14 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Choi in view of Malladi and further in view of Chulajata et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,434,375). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for the reasons detailed below.

As stated above, Applicant has amended independent claim 8 to include the allowable features of claim 12. Similarly, independent claim 20 has been amended to include features similar to the allowable features of claims 5, 12 and 17. Because Choi, Malladi and Chulajata, alone or in combination, do not suggest these features, Applicant submits that independent claims 8 and 20 are presently allowable. Claims 2, 9 and 13-14, dependent on claims 1 and 8, are patentable for at least the same reasons stated above. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the rejection to claims 2, 8-9, 13-14 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks and amendments, the Applicant respectfully submits that each of the pending objections and rejections has been addressed and overcome, placing the present application in condition for allowance. A notice to that effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

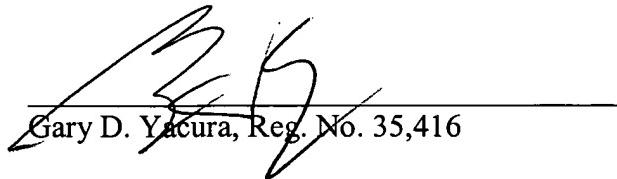
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Gary D. Yacura, at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNESS, DICKEY, & PIERCE, P.L.C.

By



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